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 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT
 CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
 SUBJECT Economic - Heavy industry

DATE OF
 INFORMATION 1949

HOW
 PUBLISHED Daily newspapers

DATE DIST. 5 Jul 1949

WHERE
 PUBLISHED Prague

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE
 PUBLISHED 16 Apr - 24 May 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO
 REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Czech

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HEAVY INDUSTRY SHOWS INCREASE

SLOVAK PRODUCTION SHOWS INCREASE -- Rude Pravo, No 90, 16 Apr 49

Slovak industry produced only 50 percent of the 1937 level in 1945. It quickly recovered, however, and surpassed prewar production by 22.2 percent in 1946.

Slovakia was industrialized both by the transfer of factories from the Czech Provinces and by the construction of new factories. Thus in the second year of the two-year plan, Slovak industry reached 196.3 percent of the 1937 level. In December 1948, the index of all Slovak industrial production reached 214.2 percent of the 1937 level (excluding the food industry, 236.3 percent).

The number of persons employed in industry has likewise been considerably increased. In December 1948, 66.3 percent more people were working in Slovak industry than in 1937.

By the end of the two-year plan, labor productivity in Slovak industry surpassed by 28.8 percent that of the prewar period.

The main increase in production was in investment goods, which reached 245.4 percent by the end of the two-year plan, compared to the prewar period. Likewise, productivity showed an increase of 47.6 percent as a result of mechanization.

There is also an increase of 88 percent in consumer goods production compared to 1937.

The largest individual increase took place in the leather industry, which increased its production almost six times. The chemical industry increased production 5.6 times, the textile industry 2.4 times, and the metallurgy industry doubled its production. The largest increase in productivity was in the

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chemical and power industries. The glass, paper, textile, and mining industries did not reach prewar productivity during the two-year plan.

10 BILLION CROWNS FOR CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY -- Svobodne Slovo, No 92, 20 Apr 49

An expenditure of almost 10 billion crowns on construction has been planned for this year in Slovakia. The following will be invested by the various sectors (in crowns):

Industrial construction	2,681,000,000
Agricultural "	677,000,000
Transport "	932,000,000
Public "	1,865,000,000
Residential "	2,989,000,000

It is planned first to complete all unfinished construction projects this year. According to last December's count, 17,537 construction projects were begun last year but not finished. Of this number, approximately 1,500 residence constructions will be eliminated because they were begun illegally. Also, 803 prefabricated houses will be built in Slovakia this year. Fifty such projects will be constructed in each kraj except Bratislava Kraj and the remainder will be placed in industrial centers. No new construction projects will be approved this year, at least not for the first 6 months.

There is a surplus of both bricks and cement, and a shortage only of lumber and iron. There is also a shortage of skilled labor. During the winter in Slovakia more than 4,000 masons, carpenters, concrete workers, etc., were trained. When the building program was initiated there was an ample supply of labor only in Zilina Kraj. Two and perhaps three work shifts will be instituted on building projects in order to fully utilize the equipment.

In the two-year plan, 15,927 residence units were completed, 10,696 dwellings begun and inhabited, and 17,388 dwellings were begun which are uninhabited.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY REORGANIZED -- Rude Pravo, No 94, 22 Apr 49

The reorganization of Czechoslovak Construction Plants is nearly completed. The original 1,170 nationalized firms which were combined last year into 98 plants will now be organized into 35 kraj construction plants and 16 specialized plants. Each plant has an average of eight construction administrations and 3,500 employees.

The former kraj administrations have been abolished and kraj inspectorates now exist only in five kraj.

FIRST CZECHOSLOVAK ROTARY PRINTING PRESS COMPLETED -- Rude Pravo, No 121, 24 May 49

On 31 May 1949 the last general test will be made on the first rotary printing press made in Czechoslovakia. The press, made in the Pilsen Skoda Factory, weighs 105 tons and is completely equipped. It will turn out 160,000 four-page jobs per hour. Printed matter can be turned out in two to four colors. It is also equipped with an automatic paper puller and stereotype plates put into position by two auxiliary motors, while special motors take care of placing paper rolls in position. The press surpasses even the most modern foreign presses.

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The press is over eight meters long, 3.5 meters wide, and 5.4 meters high. Approximately 2,500 blueprints were used in its construction.

NEW SCREW FACTORY -- Rude Pravo, No 118, 20 May 49

The present installations of the screw plants and iron mills in Vitkovice and Frystat are insufficient. The Klement Gottwald plant of the Vitkovice Iron Works is building a larger, modern screw plant. The first part, the cold pressing plant, is to be finished by mid-1952. The construction of the new screw plant will save 5 million crowns yearly in coal, coke, and electricity after the gas line has been run in from the mine.

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